

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Independent claims 38 and 50 have been canceled.

Claims 58, 59, 67, 78 and 79 have also been canceled.

The dependency of the remaining claims has been changed where appropriate so that they all ultimately depend from claim 86.

New claims 89-113 have been added. These claims correspond to claims 39-42, 44, 45, 48, 49, 51, 55-57, 60, 61, 66, 68-71, 75-77, 80, 83 and 84, respectively, except that they depend from claim 88.

Claims 39-42, 44, 45, 48, 49, 51, 55-57, 60, 61, 66, 68-71, 75-77, 80 and 83-113 are currently pending, although claims 40, 41, 66-70 and 80 have been withdrawn from consideration. Applicants hereby request rejoinder of the withdrawn claims under MPEP § 821.04.

Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for indicating that claims 85-88 were allowed. In accordance with this indication of allowable subject matter, Applicants have deleted the two other independent claims, claims 38 and 50, and have changed the dependency of the remaining claims so that they depend from claim 86. Also, Applicants have added new claims depending from claim 88. Thus, the only remaining claims in this application are allowed claims 85-88, claims which depend from allowed claim 86 and claims which depend from allowed claim 88.

In view of the above, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102, 35 U.S.C. § 103 and the judicially created doctrine of double patenting set forth in the Office Action.

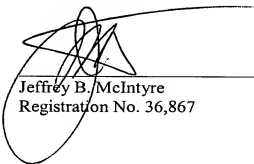
Application No: 10/827,531

Response to Office Action dated October 12, 2006

Applicants believe that the present application is in condition for allowance. Prompt and favorable consideration is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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